

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 DHA-02 ORM-01 OMB-01 AID-05 /030 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2481

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 9639

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, AF

SUBJECT: MFA OFFICIAL ON STATE OF PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS

REF: A. KABUL 6714

B. KABUL 6715

C. ISLAMABAD 9460

1. SUMMARY: MFA OFFICIAL HAS TERMED PRESENT STATE OF PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS, WHICH HE SAYS HAVE DETERIORATED IN PAST TWO MONTHS, AS BAD. OFFICIAL CITED PRESIDENT DAOUD'S RECENT LETTER TO UN SECRETARY GENERAL AND AFGHAN REPORTS OF PAK REFUGEES AS LEADING TO WORSENING RELATIONS. GOA'S ANTICIPATION OF PAK SUPREME COURT'S CONFIRMING BAN OF NAP, OFFICIAL OBSERVED, PROBABLY HAS CAUSED THEM TO INTENSIFY THEIR PROPAGANDA EFFORTS. HE ASSERTED THAT PAK DIPLOMATS IN KABUL HAVE ASKED FOR AND NOT BEEN GRANTED PERMISSION TO VISIT REFUGEE CAMPS. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL, UP 1,000 AFGHAN REFUGEES ARE CURRENTLY IN PAKISTAN, MANY OF WHOM, WHILE NOT IN CAMPS, ARE RECEIVING ASSISTANCE FROM THE GOP. HE SAID GOP CONSIDERS JUNE AGREEMENT ON AD HOMINEM PROPAGANDA AS STILL IN FORCE, EVEN THOUGH GOA IS MAINTAINING ONLY LETTER AND NOT SPIRIT OF AGREEMENT. GOP THINKS AFGHANS MAY TRY SOME PAK CITIZENS IF PERPETRATORS OF JULY PANJSHER INCIDENT ARE PUBLICLY BROUGHT TO JUSTICE. OFFICIAL ALSO

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DENT ARE PUBLICLY BROUGHT TO JUSTICE. OFFICIAL ALSO

CLAIMED THAT GOA HAS REFUSED TO GIVE GOP A LIST OF THE "SCORES" OF PAKISTANIS WHO ARE INCARCERATED IN AFGHAN JAILS ON "MINOR" CHARGES. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFF MET OCT 16 WITH MFA DIRECTOR (AFGHANISTAN) K.U.K. GHORI TO DISCUSS STATE OF PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS. IN COURSE OF TOUR D'HORIZON ON SUBJECT, GHORI CHARACTERIZED RELATIONS AS BAD AND TOUCHED ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES EXACERBATING THEM. ISSUES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

3. NAP - SUPREME COURT REFERENCE: GHORI SAID THAT GOP WAS SURPRISED AT DAUD'S LETTER TO WALDHEIM (REF C) COMING SO HARD ON THE HEELS OF THE MODERATE LINE WAHEED ABDULLAH HAD EARLIER TAKEN BEFORE UNGA. PAKS ARE INTERPRETING THIS, AS WELL AS RECENT AFGHAN CHARGES THAT MORE PAKISTANIS HAVE SOUGHT REFUGE IN AFGHANISTAN (REF A) AS CONNECTED WITH EXPECTED DECISION BY PAK SUPREME COURT ON NAP. GHORI ASSERTED THAT GOA HAS PUT SO MUCH ON THE LINE RE THE NAP-SUPREME COURT REFERENCE THAT IT FEELS IT MUST PREPARE THE WAY FOR A DECISION WHICH PROBABLY WILL BE UNFAVORABLE TO NAP AND THE AFGHANS. CONSEQUENTLY, THE AFGHANS HAVE STEPPED UP THEIR ANTI-PAKISTANI PROPAGANDA.

4. PAK REFUGEES: GHORI STUCK WITH LINE HE AND OTHER PAK OFFICIALS HAVE HELD TO FOR MANY MONTHS, THAT PAKISTANI REFUGEES IN AFGHANISTAN ARE ABSCONDERS FROM JUSTICE AND THEIR FAMILIES. SOME OF THESE, GHORI SAID, ARE NO DOUBT ATTRACTED BY FAVORABLE PICTURE PRINTED BY AFGHAN AGENTS OF CONDITIONS IN THE CAMPS AS WELL AS BY THEIR PROMISES OF FREE LAND TO REFUGEES. HOWEVER, HE ASSERTED, THESE WHO ENTER CAMPS ARE QUICKLY DISALLUSIONED AND ONLY REMAIN BECAUSE GOA FORCES THEM TO DO SO. ACCORDING TO GHORI, PAKISTANI DIPLOMATS IN KABUL TWO MONTHS AGO SENT NOTE TO MFA REQUESTING PERMISSION TO VISIT KHANDHAR REFUGEE CAMP AND OFFERING TO ASSIST RETURN OF REFUGEES TO PAKISTAN. TO DATE, GOA HAS CHOSEN TO IGNORE REQUEST, HE SAID.

5. AFGHAN REFUGEES: AS MANY AS 1,000 AFGHANS FROM
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ALL WALKS OF LIFE HAVE TAKEN POLITICAL REFUGE IN PAKISTAN, GHORI CLAIMED. THE REFUGEES, WHO INCLUDE WOMEN AND CHILDREN, ARE MAINLY CONCENTRATED IN NWFP. WHILE THEY ARE NOT LIVING IN CAMPS, MANY, HE SAID, ARE RECEIVING ASSISTANCE FROM THE GOP. TO DATE, GOP HAS NOT CHOSEN TO PUBLICIZE ISSUE, GHORI NOTED, IMPLYING THAT THEY MAY DO SO IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

6. PROPAGANDA: GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN, ACCORDING TO DIRECTOR, SEEMS TO BE MAINTAINING ONLY THE LETTER AND NOT SPIRIT OF THE JUNE 10 AGREEMENT TO END AD HOMINEM PROPAGANDA ATTACKS. GOP, HOWEVER, CONSIDERS THE AGREEMENT STILL IN FORCE AND CONTINUES TO BOTH ACCEPT AND SEND PROTESTS CONCERNING BREACHES OF IT. THE LAST SUCH PROTEST RECEIVED, GHORI NOTED, CONCERNED AN ATTACK ON DAUD WHICH APPEARED LAST MONTH IN THE VERNACULAR NAWA-I-WAQT. MFA IMMEDIATELY CAUTIONED EDITOR AND HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY RECEIVED NO ADDITIONAL COMPLAINTS CONCERNING AGREEMENT VIOLATIONS.

7. PANJSHER INCIDENT: GHORI COMMENTED THAT GOP HAS HEARD LITTLE IN RECENT WEEKS CONCERNING THE JULY PANJSHER INCIDENT, PARTICULARLY CONCERNING A POSSIBLE PUBLIC TRIAL OF ITS PERPETRATORS. HOWEVER, THEY HAVE "SOME INTIMATIONS" THAT GOA MAY ATTEMPT TO CHARGE A NUMBER OF PAKISTANI CITIZENS WITH INVOLVEMENT IN THE INCIDENT SHOULD IT COME TO TRIAL. NOTE: GHORI AGREED WITH EMBOFF THAT THOSE CAPTURED IN PANJSHER WERE ALL SAID TO BE AFGHAN NATIONS; NAY PAKISTANIS TRIED, THE THINKS, WILL PROBABLY BE TAKEN FROM AMONG THOSE DETAINED ON OTHER CHARGES.

8. PAKISTANI NATIONALS IN AFGHAN JAILS: ACCORDING TO GHORI, SOME "SCORES" OF PAKISTANIS ARE CURRENTLY INCARCERATED IN AFGHAN JAILS ON "MINOR" CHARGES, SUCH AS VIOLATIONS OF VISA RULES. SOME OF THESE, HE SAID, ARE IN THE BALA HISSAR CAMP WHERE POLITICAL PRISONERS ARE KEPT. GOP HAS REQUESTED A LIST OF THE INDIVIDUALS DETAINED, HE SAID, BUT TO DATE GOA HAS REFUSED TO PROVIDE ONE. SHOULD THE PANJSHER DETAINEES COME TO TRIAL, GHORI FEARS, SOME

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PAKISTANIS IN THIS CATEGORY MAY BE INCLUDED AMONG THEM.
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